

IN THE CLAIMS:

These claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the present application.

1. (Currently amended) A roller, particularly for applying varnishes onto sheet metal plates, comprising

- a hollow roller core[[(10)]],
- pins[[(16,18)]] for receiving the roller in a printing machine,
- coupling elements[[(20,22)]] for connecting the pins[[(16,18)]] with the roller core[[(10)]], so that a roller interior[[(44)]], is formed,

characterized in that

the coupling elements[[(20,22)]] are arranged so as to be inwardly offset with respect to the roller front faces[[(26)]],

air exit openings[[(32)]] are provided in a border region[[(28)]] of the roller core[[(10)]] outside the coupling elements[[(20,22)]], and

a channel forming element[[(34)]] for forming a junction channel[[(36)]] between the air exit openings[[(32)]] and the roller interior[[(44)]] is provided.

2. (Currently amended) The roller of claim 1, characterized in that the channel forming element[[(34)]] is inserted into the roller core[[(10)]].
3. (Currently amended) The roller of claim 1[[or 2]], characterized in that the channel forming element[[(34)]] has a L-shaped cross section so that the junction channel[[(36)]] is formed through the channel forming element[[(34)]] and an inner wall[[(24)]] of the roller core[[(10)]].
4. (Currently amended) The roller of ~~one of claims~~ claim 1[[- 3]], characterized in that the channel forming element[[(34)]] is annular.

5. (Currently amended) The roller of ~~one of claims~~claim 1[[- 4]], characterized in that one of the coupling elements[[(20,22)]] comprises at least one opening[[(42)]] communicating with the junction channel[[(36)]] and the roller interior[[(44)]].
6. (Currently amended) The roller of ~~one of claims~~claim 1[[- 5]], characterized in that one of the coupling elements[[(20,22)]] comprises a connection element[[(46)]] for the connection with a source of compressed air.
7. (Currently amended) The roller of ~~one of claims~~claim 1[[- 6]], comprising a sleeve[[(12)]] drawn up onto the roller core (air mandrel)[[(10)]].
8. (Currently amended) A method for drawing a sleeve[[(12)]] onto a roller core[[(10)]] of a roller according to ~~one of claims~~claim 1[[- 7]], wherein

an air film is formed between the sleeve[[(12)]] and an outside of the roller core[[(10)]], and

the sleeve[[(12)]] is slid or drawn onto the roller core[[(10)]] at the side of the channel forming element[[(34)]].
9. (Currently amended) ~~Use of a sleeve (12) for being drawn~~A method of drawing a sleeve onto a roller core[[(10)]] comprising the step of providing a roller according to ~~one of claims~~claim 1[[- 7]].